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13 March 1963

SUMMARY OF DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE APPEARANCE
BEFORE THE STENNIS PREPAREDNESS INVESTIGATING
SUBCOMMITTEE - 12 March 1963

1. The Director of Central Intelligence met with the Stennis Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee with all members present except Senator Thurmond. The session lasted over three hours and a record was taken.

2. Senator Stennis first asked the Director to cover the picture gap. Before getting into this subject, the Director referred to the detailed investigation which he had conducted of the performance of the Intelligence Community during the Cuban crisis and gave the Subcommittee the conclusions.

3. With Mr. Lundahl's assistance, utilizing photographs and charts, the Director gave details on the U-2 flights over Cuba of 29 August; 5, 26, 29 September; and 5 and 7 October. For each of these flights, the Subcommittee was shown graphically the exact information discovered during each flight, i. e., SAM sites, cruise missile sites, etc. It was pointed out that the planned flight for September 10 was broken down into four individual flights in view of the potential hazard from the SA-2 systems, first photographed on the 29 August mission. The delays in accomplishing these flights due to weather was also discussed. The considerations behind the plotting of the 14 October flight path were discussed including determining if the most advanced SAM sites were operational and targeting of possible strategic missile sites based on human source reports.

4. At this point there was very carefully explained the time-compression factor in the construction of the MRBM sites, utilizing comparative photography. (It was also explained that the MRBMs are in fact mobile and are designed to be moved with a field army.) A picture was shown of MRBM site #6 as of 29 August which showed nothing. The 15 October picture showed some road improvement and

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